

March 18, 1982

Memo to File:

RE: T. J.'s Patented Tar Sands
Site Inspection
ACT/019/014
DOE/019/020
Grand County, Utah

On March 10, 1982, Tom Tetting, Joe Helfrich and Sadny Pruitt met with T. J. Murphy, Paul and Phil Angelos and family, on-site to observe how the proposed 480 acre site will be developed and how current operations under the two acre exemption are being conducted. Access to the operation was via the main gravel-dirt road south out of Ouray to P. R. Springs. Located in T. 15 1/2, 16 S., R. 24 E., the operation is over 50 miles out and just over the designated (posted) Grand County line east of Main Canyon on the edge of the Book Cliffs.

Presently, the 30-day public notice period is in effect and will continue until April 9, 1982. Publication was made in papers in Salt Lake City, Roosevelt, Vernal and Moab.

Negotiations are being made by T. J. Murphy with the Angelos' brothers to sublease the northern 160 acres of property for tar sands development. The central 160 acres has already been sublet to Big Horn Oil, a small development company based in Salt Lake City.

Big Horn is currently setting up operations on the two acre site. They have stripped an area on the central ridge of some topsoil, moved trailers onto it, and brought in some processing equipment and a bulldozer. The southern flank of the hill is also partially stripped with the two seams of tar sands exposed.

Because the elevation is 8,200 feet and it is still early in the year, the ground was still partially snow covered and quite muddy. The topsoil stockpile was not evident. Subsequent discussions have determined that one does indeed exist, and should consist of 1,400 + cubic yards of soil based on a 12-18 inch measured section of exposed soil. A picture will be forwarded to the Division by April 9 to verify this fact. In a separate meeting with Mr. Murphy, it was stressed that because of his subleasing property, he should keep in close touch (weekly) with the affairs on-site. He was very receptive to all suggestions and is extremely open to environmental considerations during development. Because Mr. Murphy is not employing any specific environmental consultants, he should be given every opportunity to receive the Division's advise and consultation regarding development of the property.

No action is needed until the bond is posted and the 30-day public comment period is over.

THOMAS N. TETTING
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

TNT/btb